

CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

333 West Ocean Boulevard, 5th Floor

Long Beach, CA 90802

FAX (562) 570-6753

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

\$25.00 FILING FEE

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

To: Office of the County Clerk
Environmental Filings
12400 E. Imperial Highway, #1101
Norwalk, CA 90650

From: Community & Environmental Planning Division
Department of Planning and Building
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 5th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

Date Delivered:

In conformance with Section 15082 of the State CEQA Guidelines, please post this notice for period of 20 days. Enclosed is the required fee of \$25.00 for processing.

Notice is hereby given that the Long Beach Redevelopment Board, Lead Agency for purposes of CEQA, proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project listed below:

1. **Project Location:**

2. **Project Title:**

3. **Project Description:**

4. Review period during which the Lead Agency will receive comments on the proposed mitigated Negative Declaration:

Starting Date:

Ending Date:

5. Public Meeting of the Planning Commission

Date:

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: City Council Chambers
Long Beach City Hall
333 West Ocean Boulevard, Plaza Level

6. Copies of the report and all referenced documents are available for review by contacting the undersigned, or on the web at: www.longbeach.gov/plan/pb/epd/er.asp.
7. The site is not on any list as enumerated under Section 65965.5 of the California Government Code.
8. The Initial Study may find significant adverse impacts to occur to the following resource areas:
9. The Negative Declaration has no significant impacts.

For additional information contact:

333 West Ocean Boulevard, Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

CITY OF LONG BEACH
REDEVELOPMENT BOARD

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

PROJECT:

I. TITLE:

II. PROPONENT

III. DESCRIPTION

IV. LOCATION

V. HEARING DATE & TIME

VI. HEARING LOCATION

City Council Chambers
Long Beach City Hall
333 West Ocean Boulevard, Plaza Level

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

FINDING:

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, the Long Beach Redevelopment Board has conducted an Initial Study to determine whether the following project may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. On the basis of that study, the Board hereby finds that the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment and does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report because the Mitigation Measures described in the initial study have been added to the project.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

- * If you wish to appeal the appropriateness or adequacy of this document, address your written comments to our finding that the project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment: (1) identify the environmental effect(s), why they would occur, and why they would be significant, and (2) suggest any mitigation measures which you believe would eliminate or reduce the effect to an acceptable level. Regarding item (1) above, explain the basis for your comments and submit any supporting data or references.

This document and supporting attachments are provided for review by the general public. This is an information document about environmental effects only. Supplemental information is on file and may be reviewed in the office listed above. The decision making body will review this document and potentially many other sources of information before considering the proposed project.

INITIAL STUDY

Prepared by:

City of Long Beach
Community and Environmental Planning
333 West Ocean Boulevard, Fifth Floor
Long Beach, California 90802

INITIAL STUDY

- 1. Project title:**
- 2. Lead agency name and address:**
- 3. Contact person and phone number:**
- 4. Project location:**
- 5. Project sponsor's name and address:**
- 6. General Plan:**
- 7. Zoning:**

8. Description of project:

9. Surrounding land uses and setting:

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required:

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

Aesthetics	Agriculture Resources	Air Quality
Biological Resources	Cultural Resources	Geology/Soils
Hazards & Hazardous Materials	Hydrology/Water Quality	Land Use/Planning
Mineral Resources	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System	Noise
Population/Housing	Public Services	Recreation
Transportation	Utilities/Service Systems	Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION:

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the Environment and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. **A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENT IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parenthesis following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g. the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g. the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less than Significant with A Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration Section 1 5063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated", describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS – Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				
II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES – In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use?				
III. AIR QUALITY – Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?				
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the project:

- a) Have a substantial adverse impact, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
- b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?
- d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?
- e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project:

- a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section §15064.5?
- b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section §15064.5?
- c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?
- d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS – Would the project:

- a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
 - i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.
 - ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?
 - iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including Liquefaction?
 - iv) Landslides?
- b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?
- c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				

VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS –

Would the project:

- a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?
- b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?
- c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?
- d) Be located on a site, which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?
- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?
- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?
- g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?
- h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?				
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?				
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?				
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				
f) Otherwise degrade water quality?				
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING – Would the project:

- a) Physically divide an established community?
- b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?
- c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

X. MINERAL RESOURCES – Would the project:

- a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?
- b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

XI. NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM – Would the project:

- a) Result in a significant loss of pervious surface?
- b) Create a significant discharge of pollutants into the storm drain or water way?
- c) Violate any best management practices of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit?

XII. NOISE – Would the project result in:

- a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?
- b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or ground-borne noise levels?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the project:

- a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?
- b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?
- c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES – Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

- a) Fire protection?
- b) Police protection?
- c) Schools?
- d) Parks?
- e) Other public facilities?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV. RECREATION –				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – Would the project:				
a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?				
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				
d) Substantially increase hazards to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?				
g) Conflict with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS –				
Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlement and resources, or are new or expanded entitlement needed?				
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				

XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE –

- a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?
- b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?
- c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

I. AESTHETICS

a. Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The project site is located in the highly urbanized Downtown core. The site is currently paved as surface parking. The proposed project would create a building mass ranging from five to twelve stories where there is none. Because the project would greatly alter the appearance of project site, the response to the question cannot be "No Impact." The change in the appearance of the project site, however, would create a structure similar in height to surrounding developments. Therefore, development of the proposed project would be less than significant in its impact upon the neighborhood. Elevations of the project are included as Attachment 2.

b. Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

No Impact.

The project site is located in a highly urbanized area that does not contain any natural scenic resources. Moreover, the project site does not include any historic buildings, nor is it located on a State Scenic Highway.

c. Would the project substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

Less Than Significant Impact.

Please see I (a) above for discussion.

d. Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The project site is located in an area that is already highly urbanized with substantial nighttime lighting. While the proposed project would introduce additional light sources into the vicinity over that which currently exists, the

light sources would not be expected to adversely affect the views in the neighborhood where the project site is located.

II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES

No Impact. (for a through c)

The project site is not located within an agricultural zone, and there are no agricultural zones within the vicinity of the project. The proposed project is located within a sector of the city that has been built upon for over a century. Development of the proposed project would have no effect upon agricultural resources within the City of Long Beach or any other neighboring city or county.

III. AIR QUALITY

The South Coast Air Basin is subject to possibly some of the worst air pollution in the country, attributable mainly to its topography, climate, meteorological conditions, a large population base, and highly dispersed urban land use patterns.

Air quality conditions are primarily affected by the rate and location of pollutant emissions and by climatic conditions that influence the movement and dispersion of pollutants. Atmospheric conditions such as wind speed, wind direction, and air temperature gradients, along with local and regional topography, provide the links between air pollutant emissions and air quality.

The South Coast Air Basin generally has a limited capability to disperse air contaminants because of its low wind speeds and persistent temperature inversions. In the Long Beach area, predominantly daily winds consist of morning onshore airflow from the southwest at a mean speed of 7.3 miles per hour and afternoon and evening offshore airflow from the northwest at 0.2 to 4.7 miles per hour with little variability between seasons. Summer wind speeds average slightly higher than winter wind speeds. The prevailing winds carry air contaminants northward and then eastward over Whittier, Covina, Pomona and Riverside.

The majority of pollutants normally found in the Los Angeles County atmosphere originate from automobile exhausts as unburned hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen and other materials. Of the five major pollutant types (carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides,

reactive organic gases, sulfur oxides, and particulates), only sulfur oxide emissions are dominated by sources other than automobile exhaust.

a. Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable Air Quality Attainment Plan?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The Southern California Association of Governments has determined that if a project is consistent with the growth forecasts for the sub region in which it is located, it is consistent with the Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) and regional emissions are mitigated by the control strategy specified in the AQMP. By the year 2010, preliminary population projections by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) indicate that Long Beach will grow by 27,680+ residents, or six percent, to a population of 491,000+.

The proposed project would introduce a residential population on a site where none currently exists. Using the average Long Beach household size of 2.77 persons per household, the project might accommodate 236 people. Therefore, the project is within the growth forecasts for the sub region and consistent with the Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). In addition, the project is consistent with the goals of the City of Long Beach Air Quality Element that calls for achieving air quality improvements in a manner that continues economic growth.

b. Would the project violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation?

Less than Significant Impact.

The California Air Resources Board regulates mobile emissions and oversees the activities of county Air Pollution Control Districts (APCDs) and regional Air Quality Management Districts (AQMDs) in California. The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) is the regional agency empowered to regulate stationary and mobile sources in the South Coast Air Basin.

To determine whether a project generates sufficient quantities of air pollution to be considered significant, the SCAQMD adopted maximum thresholds of significance for mobile and stationary producers in the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), (i.e., cars, trucks, buses and energy consumption). SCAQMD Conformity Procedures (Section 6.3 of the CEQA Air Quality Handbook, April 1993) states that all government actions that generate emission greater than the following thresholds are considered regionally significant (see Table 1).

Table 1. SCAQMD Significance Thresholds

Pollutant	Construction Thresholds (lbs/day)	Operational Thresholds (lbs/day)
ROC	75	55
NO _x	100	55
CO	550	550
PM ₁₀	150	150
SO _x	150	150

Construction emissions would involve the development of two levels of subterranean parking and five to twelve levels of structure. Because the project site is presently an at-grade parking lot, construction emissions would not include the demolition of any structures. Construction emissions would be estimated to be below threshold levels. The sources of these estimates are based on CEQA Air Quality Handbook, revised 1993, Table 9-1 Screening Table for Estimating Total Construction Emissions. The table below indicates the results.

	ROC	NO _x	CO	PM ₁₀
Construction Emissions	3.72	49.55	10.77	3.51
AQMD Thresholds	75	100	550	150
Exceeds Thresholds	No	No	No	No

The primary long-term emission source from the proposed project would be vehicles driven by residents, patrons of the retail spaces and tenants of the existing office building. A secondary source of operational emissions would be the consumption of natural gas and the use of landscape maintenance equipment. As a parking lot, the project site currently generates trips and operational emissions. Estimated automobile emissions from the project are listed in the table below. The sources of these estimates are based on the CEQA Air Quality Handbook, revised 1993, Table 9-7 Screening Table for Estimating Mobile Source Operation Emissions. Based upon these estimates, the proposed project would not exceed threshold levels for mobile emissions. The table below indicates the results.

	ROC	NO _x	CO	PM ₁₀
Project Emissions	8.88	5.28	87.36	.72
AQMD Thresholds	55	55	550	150
Exceeds Thresholds	No	No	No	No

c. Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

Less than Significant Impact.

Please see III (a) and (b) above for discussion.

d. Would the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

No Impact.

The CEQA Air Quality Handbook defines sensitive receptors as children, athletes, elderly and sick individuals that are more susceptible to the effects of air pollution than the population at large. The proposed project would not be anticipated to produce significant levels of any emission that could affect sensitive receptors.

e. Would the project create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The proposed project would be a mixed-use development, including residential units and retail square footage. The project would be required by code to comply with City requirements applicable to the maintenance of trash areas to minimize potential odors, including storage of refuse and frequency of refuse collection at the site. Any eating establishment would be required to comply with proper venting for food odors. The project would not be anticipated to create objectionable odors.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

No Impact. (for a through f)

The proposed project site is located within a highly urbanized portion of the city, and is adjacent to high density residential, commercial, office and institutional land uses. The vegetation is minimal and consists of common horticultural species in landscaped areas. There is no evidence of rare or sensitive species as listed in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations or Title 50 of the Federal Code of Regulations.

The proposed site is not located in a protected wetlands area. Also, the development of the proposed project is not anticipated to interfere with the migratory movement of any wildlife species. The biological habitat and species diversity is limited to that typically found in highly populated and urbanized Southern California settings.

No adverse impacts would be anticipated to biological resources.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

No Impact.

There is some evidence to indicate that primitive people inhabited portions of the city as early as 5,000 to 2,000 B.C. Much of the remains and artifacts of these ancient people have been destroyed as the city has been developed. Of the archaeological sites remaining, many of them seem to be located in the southeast sector of the city. No adverse impacts are anticipated to cultural resources.

a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section §15064.5?

At present, the project site is a paved parking lot. The proposed project would not be anticipated to have an impact on any historical resource.

b. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section §15064.5?

The project site is located outside the area of the City expected to have the higher probability of latent artifacts. While the proposed project would involve excavation, it would not be expected to affect any archaeological resource.

c. Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Please see V. (b) above for discussion.

d. Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Please see V. (b) above for discussion.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

a. Would the project expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

Less Than Significant Impact.

Per Plate 2 of the Seismic Safety Element of the General Plan, no faults are known to pass beneath the site, and the area is not in the Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zone. The most significant fault system in the vicinity is the Newport-Inglewood fault zone. Other potentially active faults in the area are the Richfield Fault, the Marine Stadium Fault, the Palos Verdes Fault and the Los Alamitos Fault. Because faults do exist in the City, "No Impact" would not be an appropriate response, but a less than significant impact could be anticipated.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The proximity of the Newport-Inglewood Fault could create substantial ground shaking at the proposed site if a seismic event occurred along the fault. However, there are numerous variables that determine the level of damage at a given location. Given these variables, it is not possible to determine the level of damage that may occur on the site during a seismic event. The project, however, would be constructed in conformance to all current state and local building codes relative to seismic safety. No significant impact would be anticipated.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including Liquefaction?

No Impact.

The proposed project is outside the area for potential liquefaction based upon Plate 7 of the Seismic Safety Element of the City's General Plan. No impact is anticipated.

iv) Landslides?

No Impact.

Per the Seismic Safety Element, no landslides are anticipated to occur on the site of the proposed project. No impact would be anticipated.

b. Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

No Impact.

The proposed project would not result in any soil erosion. The project site is relatively flat and, at present, functions as a paved parking lot that will be replaced by subterranean parking and a structure ranging from five to twelve stories. No impact would be anticipated.

c. Would the project be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

No Impact.

Please see VI (a. iii) and (b) above for discussion.

d. Would the project be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

No Impact.

The project site is located on predominantly granular non-marine deposits over granular marine sediments. No expansion is anticipated.

e. Would the project have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

No Impact.

The project site is located in an area where sewers exist and are utilized.

VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

a. Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

No Impact.

The proposed project would be the development of 85 residential units and retail square footage. The function of the project would not involve the transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. Therefore, the proposed project would not be anticipated to create any significant hazard to the public or the environment via the use, transport or disposal of hazardous materials.

b. Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

No Impact.

Please see VII (a) above for discussion.

c. Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The project site is located a few blocks east of the new Cesar Chavez Elementary School. Construction vehicles at the project site would emit emissions, but would also be required to minimize such emissions through regulatory measures. Any impact would be expected to be less than significant.

d. Would the project be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

No Impact:

The Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites (Cortese) List is a planning document used by the State, local agencies and developers to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act requirements in providing information about the location of hazardous materials release sites. The Cortese List does not list the proposed project site as contaminated with hazardous materials.

e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact:

The proposed project site is not located within the airport land use plan.

f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact.

Please see VII (e) above for discussion.

g. Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

No Impact:

The proposed project would include the development of both residential and retail square footage. The Fire and Police Departments would both have the opportunity to review and provide input to the project plans prior to construction. The project would be required to comply with all current Fire and Health and Safety codes and would be required by code to have posted evacuation routes to be utilized in the event of an emergency. The proposed project would not be expected to impair implementation of or physically interfere with an emergency evacuation plan from the building or any adopted emergency response plan.

h. Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wild land fires, including where wild lands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wild lands?

No Impact:

The project site is within an urbanized setting and would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wild land fires.

VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

The Flood Insurance Administration has prepared a new Flood Hazard Map designating potential flood zones, (Based on the projected inundation limits for breach of the Hansen Dam and that of the Whittier Narrows Dam, as well as the 100-year flood as delineated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) which was adopted in July 1998.

The proposed project would comply with all state and federal requirements pertaining to preservation of water quality.

a. Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

Less Than Significant Impact:

While development and operation of the proposed project involve the discharge of water into the system, the project would not be expected to violate any wastewater discharge standards. The project site is in an urbanized area, which is not adjacent to any major water source.

b. Would the project substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

No Impact.

The proposed project would be developed in an urban setting with water systems in place that were designed to accommodate development. The

operation of the proposed land use would not be expected to substantially deplete or interfere with the recharge of groundwater supplies.

c. Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

No Impact.

The project site is in an urban setting and is not near any stream or river. At present, the site is a paved parking lot where water currently drains off. The proposed project would not result in any erosion or siltation on or off the site.

d. Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on-or off-site?

No Impact:

The project is already an impervious surface that experiences runoff. The proposed project would be constructed with drainage infrastructure in place to avoid a situation where runoff would result in flooding or upset.

e. Would the project create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems?

No Impact:

Please see VIII (c) and (d) above for discussion.

f. Would the project otherwise degrade water quality?

Less Than Significant Impact.

During construction and operation, the project would be expected to comply with all laws and code requirements relative to maintaining water quality. Therefore, the project would not be expected to significantly impact or degrade the quality of the water system.

g. Would the project place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?

No Impact.

While the proposed project does include residential dwelling units, it would not be anticipated to be impacted by a flood. According to Plate 10 of the Seismic Safety Element, the project site is located outside of the 100-year flood hazard area.

h. Would the project place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?

No Impact.

Please see VIII (g) above for discussion.

i. Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

No Impact.

The project site is not located where it would be impacted by flooding, nor is it located within proximity of a levee or dam. There would be no impact.

j. Would the project result in inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?

No Impact.

Per Plate 11 of the Seismic Safety Element, the project site is not within a zone influenced by the inundation of seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING

a. Would the project physically divide an established community?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The project would be located in the PD-30 Downtown Zoning. While the project is not a redevelopment effort, the site is located within the Downtown Redevelopment Area. The project would be developed in a neighborhood that already has similar, high-density residential

developments with ground floor retail spaces. The project would not be expected to physically divide any established community.

b. Would the project conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation.

The proposed project would be located in the City's General Plan Land Use District, #7, Mixed Uses, and in the PD-30 Zoning district, which is the designation for a defined portion of downtown Long Beach. While the proposed land use would be compatible with other similar uses in the Downtown core, a Zoning amendment to PD-30 would be required for issues pertaining to use and height.

Because there would be a DDA document for the project site, the Redevelopment Board would certify the Negative Declaration and the Planning Commission would approved the project. The Commission would receive the Negative Declaration as an attachment to the staff report. The applicant would be required to submit revised plans to Planning staff prior to the scheduling of a public hearing before the Commission. The following mitigation measure is included in the Negative Declaration to ensure resolution of all outstanding land use and transportation issues relating to the proposed project:

IX-1. Prior to approval by the Planning Commission, the applicant shall have complied with all required land use and transportation regulations and policies as determined by Planning staff and shall have revised the project plans to reflect such compliance. Any regulations or policies not satisfied shall be conditioned upon the project at the discretion of the Planning staff.

c. Would the project conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural communities conservation plan?

No Impact:

The project site is located in an urban setting where there are no habitat or natural community conservation plans in place. Therefore, there would be not conflict with such a plan.

X. MINERAL RESOURCES

The primary mineral resource within the City of Long Beach has been oil. However, oil extraction operations within the city have diminished over the last century as this resource has become depleted due to extraction operations. Today, oil extraction continues but on a greatly reduced scale in comparison to that which occurred in the past. The project site does not contain any oil extraction operations. Development of the proposed project would not be anticipated to have a negative impact on this resource. There are no other known mineral resources on the site that could be negatively impacted by development.

a. Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

No Impact.

The project site is located in an urbanized setting. Development of the proposed project would not impact or result in the loss of availability of any known mineral resource.

b. Would the project result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

No Impact.

Please see X (a) above for discussion.

XI. NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)

The proposed project would involve the development of a structure ranging in height from five-stories to twelve stories over two levels of subterranean parking. The project site is already an impervious surface covered by hardscape.

a. Would the project result in a significant lose of pervious surface?

No Impact.

The project site is currently paved as a parking lot with hardscape and landscaped areas. The proposed project would not result in a significant loss of pervious surface.

b. Would the project create a significant discharge of pollutants into the storm drain or water way?

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation.

The proposed project would not be a land use that would be associated with significant discharges of pollutants. Due to the urban setting and the size of the project site, the following mitigation measure shall apply:

- XI-1** Prior to the release of the grading permit, the applicant shall prepare and submit a Storm Drain Master Plan to identify all storm run-off and methods of proposed discharge. The Plan shall be approved by all impacted agencies.

c. Would the project violate any best management practices of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit?

Less Than Significant With Mitigation.

It would be necessary for the applicant to practice Best Management Practices (BMPs) during all phases of development of the proposed mixed use project. This would include site preparation, excavation, grading and each phase of construction. The following mitigation measure shall apply:

- XI-2** Prior to the release of any grading or building permit, the project plans shall include a narrative discussion of the rationale used for selecting or rejecting BMPs. The project architect or engineer of record, or authorized qualified designee, shall sign a statement on the plans to the effect: "As the architect/engineer of record, I have selected appropriate BMPs to effectively minimize the negative impacts of this project's construction activities on storm water quality. The project owner and contractor are aware that the selected BMPs must be installed, monitored and maintained to ensure their effectiveness. The BMPs not selected for implementation are redundant or deemed not applicable to the proposed construction activities."
(Source: Section 18.95.050 of the Long Beach Municipal Code).

XII. NOISE

Noise is defined as unwanted sound that disturbs human activity. Environmental noise levels typically fluctuate over time, and different types of noise descriptors are used to account for this variability. Measuring

noise levels involves intensity, frequency, and duration, as well as time of occurrence.

Some land uses are considered more sensitive to ambient noise levels than other uses, due to the amount of noise exposure and the types of activities involved. Residences, motels, hotels, schools, libraries, churches, nursing homes, auditoriums, parks and outdoor recreation areas are generally more sensitive to noise than are commercial and industrial land uses.

The City of Long Beach uses the State Noise/Land Use Compatibility Standards, which suggests a desirable exterior noise exposure at 65 dBA CNEL for sensitive land uses such as residences. Less sensitive commercial and industrial uses may be compatible with ambient noise levels up to 70 dBA. The City of Long Beach has an adopted Noise Ordinance that sets exterior and interior noise standards.

a. Would the project result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?

Less Than Significant Impact:

Development of the proposed project is not expected to create noise levels in excess of those established by the Long Beach City Ordinance. During the period of construction, the development may cause temporary increases within the ambient noise levels but it is not expected to exceed established standards. Project construction must conform to the Noise Ordinance. As stated in §8.80.202, “no person shall operate or permit the operation of any tools or equipment used for construction, alternation, repair, remodeling, drilling, demolition or any other related building activity which would produce loud or unusual noise which annoys or disturbs a reasonable person of normal sensitivity between the hours of seven p.m. and seven a.m.”

b. Would the project result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?

Less Than Significant Impact:

The proposed project could expose persons to periodic ground borne noise or vibration during construction phases. However, this expected type of noise would be typical for a construction site and would be expected to have a less than significant impact.

c. Would the project create a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Less Than Significant Impact.

Although the proposed project could result in a permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project, the permanent increase would not be expected to be substantial. Such an increase would not be expected to require mitigation.

d. Would the project create a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Less than Significant Impact.

Development of the proposed project would involve temporary noise typically associated with new construction. Such noise could create a temporary increase in the ambient noise level along Third Street and in the neighborhood. Once the proposed project is completed, the noise levels created by the project would be expected to consistent and non-disruptive.

e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No Impact:

The proposed project is not located within any airport land use plan.

f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area excessive noise levels?

No Impact:

The proposed project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip.

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING

The City of Long Beach is the second largest city in Los Angeles County and the fifth largest in California. At the time of the 2000 Census, Long

Beach had a population of 461,522, which presents a 7.5 percent increase from the 1990 Census. According to the 2000 Census, there were 163,088 housing units in Long Beach, with a citywide vacancy rate of 6.32 percent. It is projected that a total population of approximately 499,705 persons will inhabit the City of Long Beach by the year 2010.

a. Would the project induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The proposed project would involve the development of 85 new dwelling units in the Downtown core. The project would, therefore, cause a direct increase in the population of the area. Such an increase would not be significant to the level of requiring mitigation.

b. Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No Impact.

The proposed project would create housing rather than displace housing. The project site does not contain any residential structures or house any people at present.

c. Would the project displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No Impact.

Please see XIII (b) above for discussion.

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES

Fire protection is provided by the Long Beach Fire Department. The Department has 23 in-city stations. The Department is divided into Fire Prevention, Fire Suppression, Bureau of Instruction, and the Bureau of Technical Services. The Fire Department is accountable for medical, paramedic, and other first aid rescue calls from the community.

The Long Beach Police Department serves the project site. The Department is divided into Patrol, Traffic, Detective, Juvenile, Vice, Community, Jail, Records, and Administration Sections. The City has four Patrol Divisions; East, West, North and South.

The City of Long Beach is primarily served by the Long Beach Unified School District, which also serves the Cities of Signal Hill, and most of Lakewood. The District has been operating at or over capacity in recent years.

Would the proposed project have an adverse impact upon any of the following public services:

a. Fire protection?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The proposed project would create 85 dwelling units and 2,785 square feet of retail square footage. The development would be plan checked by the Fire Department to ensure emergency access and compliance with all applicable Fire code requirements. The proposed project would not be expected to have an adverse impact upon Fire services.

b. Police protection?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The Police Department's South Division would serve the proposed project. During staff review of the proposed project, the Police Department would have the opportunity to provide input to the applicant regarding security lighting and locks, defensible design, emergency access and other related issues. The proposed project would not be expected to have an adverse impact upon Police services.

c. Schools?

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated.

The proposed project would include the development of 85 ownership dwelling units. Although the units would likely be marketed to buyers who do not necessarily have school age children, i.e. young professionals, singles, empty-nesters, etc., the completed project could include some school age residents. At the time of issuance of building permits, the project applicant would be required to pay the required per square foot School Impact Fee. The City calculates and collects such fees for the Long Beach Unified School District along with other permit fees. The impact of the proposed project upon the local schools would not be anticipated to be adverse.

d. Parks?

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated.

The proposed project would create 85 new ownership dwelling units. Because the project site is located in one of the most park deficient portions of the City, there is no neighborhood park nearby. Cesar Chavez Park would be the nearest community park for the new residents. Every new residential development has an impact upon the City's park system. As a result, the City began collecting Park Impact Fees from residential developers in 1989. While perhaps not fully mitigating the impact upon the existing parks, the fees do help to maintain the existing system.

e. Other public facilities?

No Impact.

Other public facilities located near the project site would include City Hall, the Main Library and Lincoln Park. These facilities would not be expected to be adversely impacted by the proposed project.

XV. RECREATION

a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The proposed project could increase the use of the nearest community park or other existing facilities in the City. However, the increased use by residents of the project would not be expected to result in physical deterioration. The parks in the City are maintained at a high standard. Overall, development of the proposed project would not be anticipated to place an increased burden on the recreational facilities of the city.

b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

Less Than Significant Impact.

According to the plans of the proposed project, private on-site facilities would include a "café patio and garden", a "grand hall / lobby", an 800+ square foot fitness room and a 400+ square foot business center. No

other active recreation areas are proposed for the project. The facilities that have been proposed would not be expected to have an adverse effect upon the environment.

XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

Since 1980, Long Beach has experienced significant growth. Continued growth is expected into the next decade. Inevitably, growth will generate additional demand for travel. Without proper planning and necessary transportation improvements, this increase in travel demand, if unmanaged, could result in gridlock on freeways and streets, and jeopardize the tranquility of residential neighborhoods.

a. Would the project cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?

Less than Significant Impact.

According to the traffic and parking study prepared for the proposed project by Meyer, Mohaddes Associates, nineteen intersections were analyzed for impacts from the proposed project. Three intersections, Broadway and Maine Avenue, Broadway and Daisy Avenue, and 3rd Street and Daisy Avenue, would operate at Level of Service E or F, at build-out of the project. The traffic study indicates that the City has committed to installing traffic signals at Broadway and Maine Avenue as part of the Cesar Chavez Elementary school development. In addition, City-proposed traffic signals will be installed at Broadway and Daisy Avenue and 3rd Street and Daisy Avenue as part of the West Gateway development. If the three planned signals are installed, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact upon the three intersections mentioned, as well as the other intersections analyzed. The five-page Executive Summary of the Traffic Study is included as Attachment 3. The entire Traffic Study is available at City Hall for review.

b. Would the project exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

Less than Significant Impact.

The proposed project would not be expected to exceed any level of service. As stated in the traffic study, there are improvements to the area

transportation system that are proposed as part of other area projects previously approved by the City. The proposed project would benefit from the improvements that have already been required and assumed for other developments.

c. Would the project result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

No Impact.

The proposed project would have no impact upon air traffic patterns and would be unrelated to air traffic in general. Because of the proposed height of a portion of the project, an emergency helicopter landing on the roof would be required by code. However, the landing would not be expected to be used for regular air travel.

d. Would the project substantially increase hazards to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation.

The proposed project includes accesses on Cedar Avenue and Pacific Avenue. Based upon written comments from the Conceptual Site Plan Review for the proposed project, design and adequacy issues regarding access to the project site may be outstanding. The following mitigation measure is included to ensure that all issues pertaining to site accesses are resolved:

XV-1 Prior to the issuance of building permits, the applicant shall consult with City staff and resolve all issues relating to the project accesses on Cedar Avenue and Pacific Avenue. The accesses shall be designed to the satisfaction of both Planning staff and the Traffic Engineer.

e. Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The Fire Department and Police Department would both have input into the design of the proposed project and all accesses to proposed project. As a result, the proposed project would not be expected to result in a design with inadequate emergency access.

f. Would the project result in inadequate parking capacity?

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation.

The proposed project would include parking on five levels, two subterranean, one at grade, and two above grade. Parking would be required to be provided for the residents of the 85 residential units, guests of the residential units, and the retail square footage. The proposed project would replace parking spaces from the existing surface lot on the project site and would provide parking for the existing office building located south of the project site. According to the traffic and parking study prepared by Meyer, Mohaddes Associates, the parking to be provided would adequately accommodate the demand created by the project. However, the parking numbers outlined in the Traffic Study, on the Environmental Application, and in the written comments from the Conceptual Site Plan Review all vary slightly. The following mitigation measure is included to ensure that the proposed parking satisfies all of the City's requirements:

XV-2 Prior to the issuance of building permits, the project plans and the Traffic Study, if necessary, shall be revised to reflect the accurate number and location of parking spaces to be provided. The number of spaces provided shall account for all lost spaces being replaced and shall account for all on-site and off-site square footage being parked. The final parking counts shall be prepared to the satisfaction of Planning staff.

g. Would the project conflict with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?

Less Than Significant Impact: With Mitigation.

At the northeast corner of the project site is a transit stop on south-bound Pacific Avenue. The traffic study indicates that adequate spacing between the transit stop and the project access shall remain as well as a pedestrian area of adequate size around the transit stop. The following mitigation measure is included in the event the transit stop has to be located:

XV-3 Prior to the issuance of any certificate of occupancy, the applicant shall participate in the cost of any relocation or changes to the transit stop located at the northeast corner of the project site on southbound Pacific Avenue. The transit stop shall be maintained at a location and size deemed adequate by Long Beach Transit. Compliance with this mitigation shall be to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Building.

XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project::

- a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?**
- b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?**
- c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?**
- d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlement and resources, or are new or expanded entitlement needed?**
- e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?**
- f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?**
- g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?**

Less Than Significant Impact.

The proposed project would not be expected to place an undue burden on any utility or service system. The project would occur in an urbanized setting where all utilities and services are in place. The intensity of the proposed development was taken into account when the surrounding utility and service systems were planned.

XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

- a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-**

sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

No Impact.

The proposed project would be located within an established urbanized setting. There would be no anticipated negative impact to any known fish or wildlife habitat or species.

b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

Less Than Significant Impact.

The proposed project is not anticipated to have a cumulative considerable effect on the environment. While the project would introduce development on a site that is currently a paved parking lot, the proposed land use and density would be consistent with the adjacent developments and the urban core where the project site is located.

c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

No Impact.

There are no substantial adverse environmental effects to human life either directly or indirectly related to the proposed project.

**MITIGATION MONITORING PLAN
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION 29-04
CEDAR COURT AT THIRD STREET
230 W. 3RD STREET**

IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING

- IX-1** Prior to approval by the Planning Commission, the applicant shall have complied with all required land use and transportation regulations and policies as determined by Planning staff and shall have revised the project plans to reflect such compliance. Any regulations or policies not satisfied shall be conditioned upon the project at the discretion of the Planning staff.

TIMING: Prior to approval by the Planning Commission
ENFORCEMENT: Planning Bureau; Planning & Building Dept.

XI. NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)

- XI-1** Prior to the release of the grading permit, the applicant shall prepare and submit a Storm Drain Master Plan to identify all storm run-off and methods of proposed discharge. The Plan shall be approved by all impacted agencies.

TIMING: Prior to issuance of the grading permit.
ENFORCEMENT: Planning & Building Dept.

- XI-2** Prior to the release of any grading or building permit, the project plans shall include a narrative discussion of the rationale used for selecting or rejecting BMPs. The project architect or engineer of record, or authorized qualified designee, shall sign a statement on the plans to the effect: "As the architect/engineer of record, I have selected appropriate BMPs to effectively minimize the negative impacts of this project's construction activities on storm water quality. The project owner and contractor are aware that the selected BMPs must be installed, monitored and maintained to ensure their effectiveness. The BMPs not selected for implementation are redundant or deemed not applicable to the proposed construction activities."
(Source: Section 18.95.050 of the Long Beach Municipal Code).

TIMING: Prior to issuance of the grading permit.
ENFORCEMENT: Planning & Building Dept.

XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

XV-1 Prior to the issuance of building permits, the applicant shall consult with City staff and resolve all issues relating to the project accesses on Cedar Avenue and Pacific Avenue. The accesses shall be designed to the satisfaction of both Planning staff and the Traffic Engineer.

TIMING: Prior to issuance of building permits.
ENFORCEMENT: Planning Bureau, Planning & Building Dept.
Traffic Engineer; Public Works Dept.

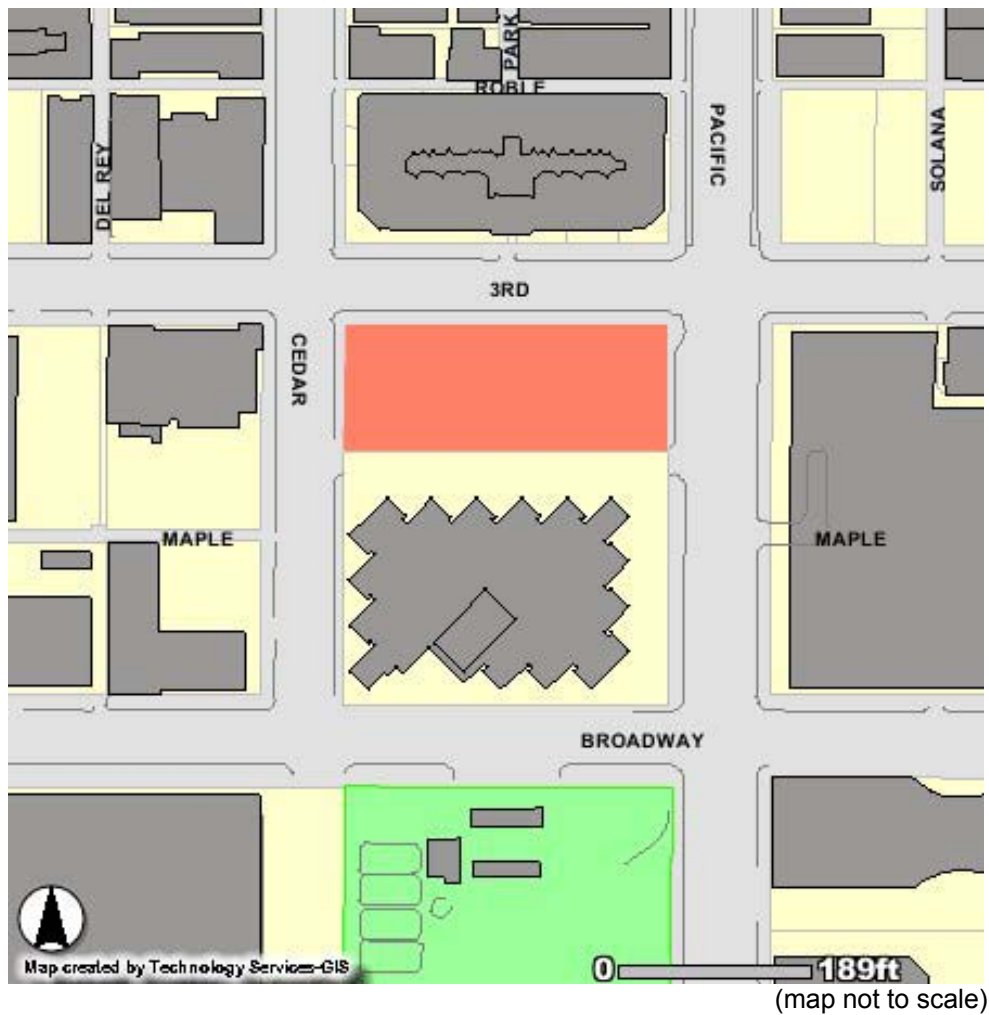
XV-2 Prior to the issuance of building permits, the project plans and the Traffic Study, if necessary, shall be revised to reflect the accurate number and location of parking spaces to be provided. The number of spaces provided shall account for all lost spaces being replaced and shall account for all on-site and off-site square footage being parked. The final parking counts shall be prepared to the satisfaction of Planning staff.

TIMING: Prior to issuance of building permits.
ENFORCEMENT: Planning Bureau, Planning & Building Dept.

XV-3 Prior to the issuance of any certificate of occupancy, the applicant shall participate in the cost of any relocation or changes to the transit stop located at the northeast corner of the project site on southbound Pacific Avenue. The transit stop shall be maintained at a location and size deemed adequate by Long Beach Transit. Compliance with this mitigation shall be to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Building.

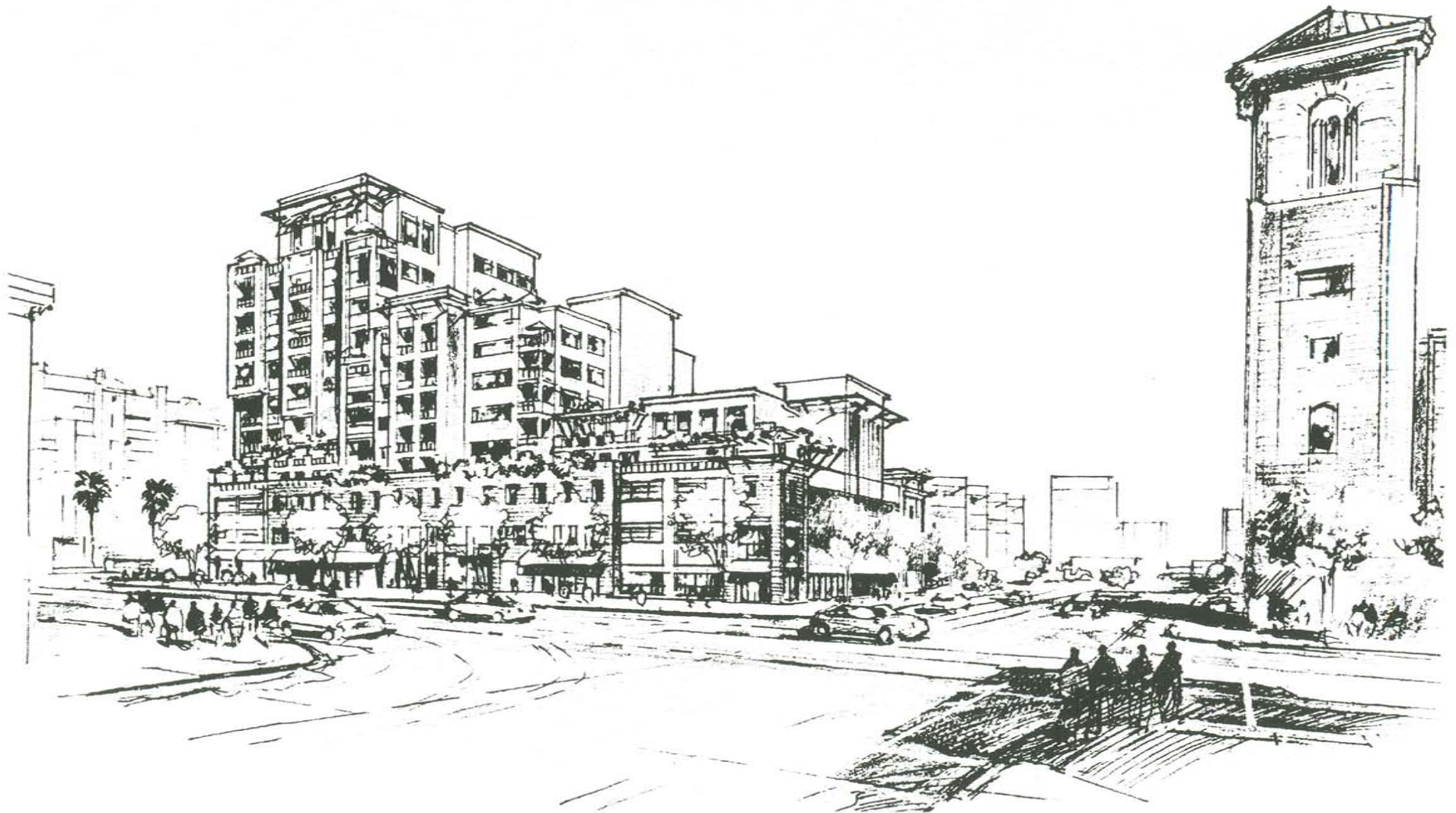
TIMING: Prior to issuance of certificates of occupancy.
ENFORCEMENT: Planning & Building Dept.

VICINITY MAP

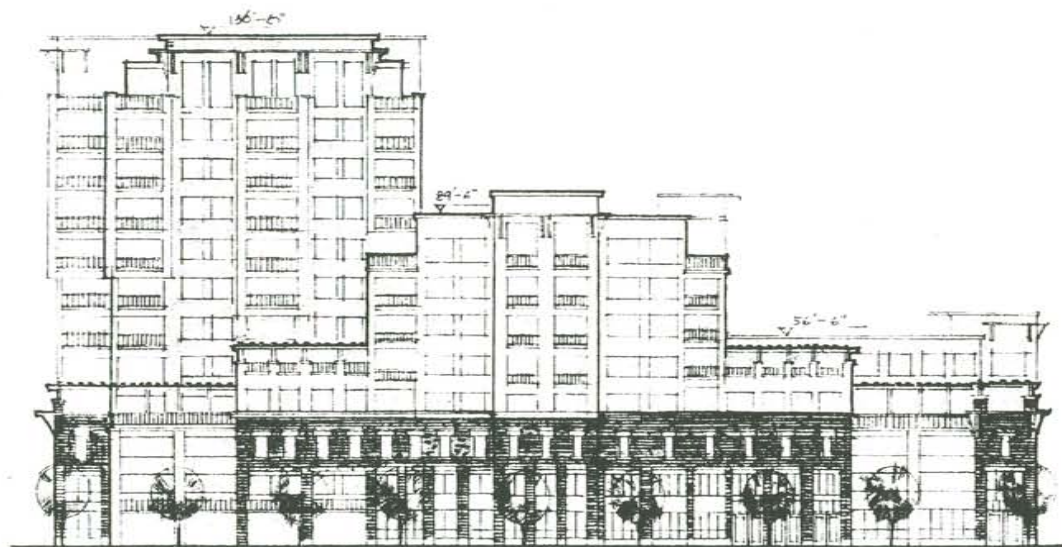


PROJECT	Cedar Court at Third Street 85 loft-style, ownership units 2,785 square feet of retail space
PROJECT SITE	0.90 acre
BOUNDARIES	North W. 3rd Street East Pacific Avenue South Existing office building West Cedar Avenue

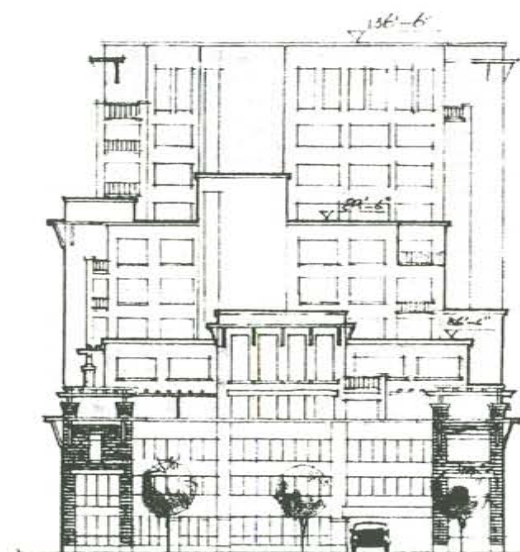
ATTACHMENT 1



CEDAR COURT AT THIRD STREET



3RD STREET ELEVATION (NORTH)
1/16" = 1'



CEDAR AVE ELEVATION (WEST)
1/16" = 1'

CEDAR COURT AT THIRD STREET

PACIFIC ADVISORS - DAVID KUBIT

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

5-28-2004 HPA 2003191



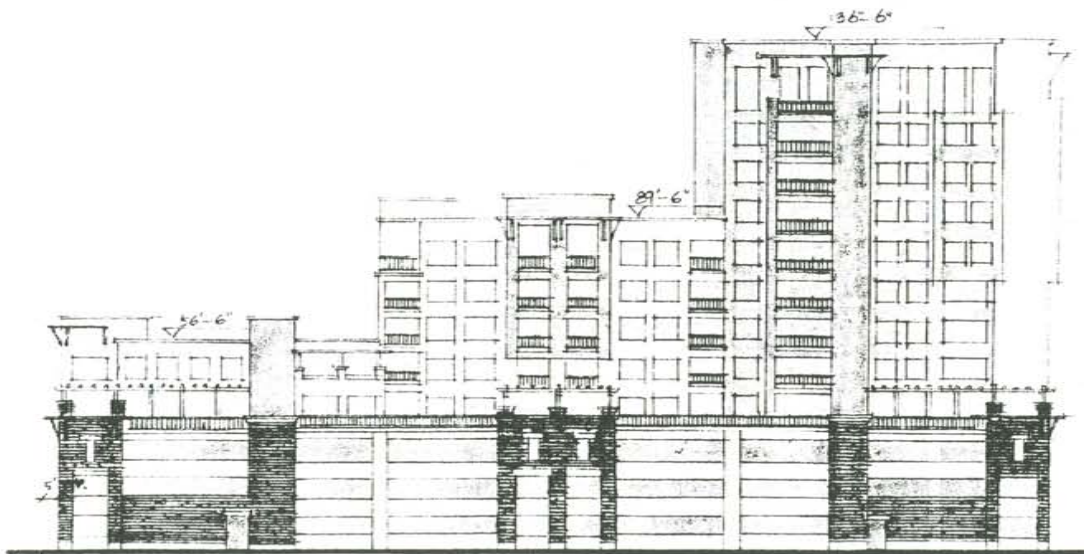
Humphreys & Partners Architects

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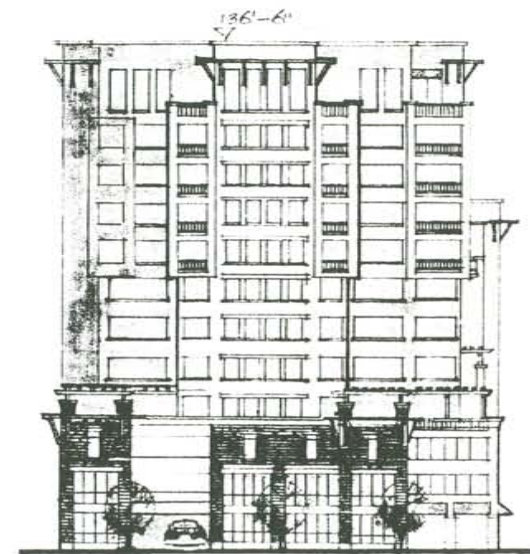
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REAR ELEVATION (SOUTH)
1/16" = 1'



PACIFIC AVE ELEVATION (EAST)
1/16" = 1'

CEDAR COURT AT THIRD STREET
PACIFIC ADVISORS - DAVID KUBIT
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA
5-28-2004 HPA 2003191



Humphreys & Partners Architects

A-442

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architectural drawings are prepared for the building permit only. drawings may vary due to further investigation. Final regulatory authorities and building code address. Drawings show are of a design. Detail, site, and other drawings are not shown. Drawings for technical information and construction.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Cedar Court Project consists of 86 new residential loft units above a new parking structure, the re-use of the existing office building (approximately 122,500 square feet), and approximately 2,785 square feet of neighborhood-oriented retail space, as previously shown on Figure 2. The Project will also provide structured parking for the residential units, the office and retail space. The existing site contains a City-owned parking lot with 114 permit-only spaces and is managed by Ace Parking.

The Project is located on the block bounded by West Broadway on the south, Cedar Avenue on the west, 3rd Street on the north, and Pacific Avenue on the east. A graphics and display company and project management and security offices occupy some of the existing office space. Based on observations of the site and discussions with City staff, the office space was assumed to be empty for purposes of this study and that there is no existing trip generation from that space to consider a worst-case analysis.

The proposed vehicular access to the residential portion of the Project will be from an existing driveway along Pacific Avenue. Access to the office and general public parking areas will be via a driveway on Cedar Avenue. Pedestrian access to the residential lobby will be located along 3rd Street. With access to the office building remaining along West Broadway on the south side of the building and through a new green area on the north side of the building.

Transit service is located adjacent to the site along Pacific Avenue and 3rd Street and at the nearby 1st Street Transit Mall providing MTA Blue Line service and stops for MTA and Long Beach Transit buses. MTA bus service is provided near the site along with Long Beach Transit bus and Passport service. Based on discussions with Long Beach Transit (LBT) staff, the stops near the Project are some of the busiest in the area.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Based on consultation with the City of Long Beach, 19 key intersections were selected for analysis. These are intersections deemed most likely to experience potentially significant impacts from the Project and therefore warrant detailed analysis. Of the 19 study intersections, 3 are currently controlled by stop signs. The remaining 16 study intersections are controlled by traffic signals. The three stop-sign controlled intersections are:

- 4th Street & Maine Avenue
- Broadway & Maine Avenue
- 3rd Street & Daisy Avenue

AM and PM peak-hour LOS analyses were conducted for the 19 study intersections based on the measured traffic volumes, geometries, signal timings, and the City of Long Beach traffic analysis methodologies. The results of the traffic analyses indicate that intersection of Broadway and Maine Avenue is currently operating at LOS F during the AM peak hour and LOS E during the PM peak hour. This is primarily due to the intersection not having a traffic signal and the traffic on the Maine Avenue approaches must wait for gaps in traffic to cross Broadway. The remaining 18 intersections currently operate at LOS D or better. Previous discussions with City staff indicated that the City has committed to installing traffic signals at this intersection in the future as part of the Broadway School project. Installing the signals would allow the intersection to operate at LOS A.

Daily Traffic Volumes

Mid-block 24-hour traffic counts were conducted along Cedar Avenue between 4th and 5th Streets and between 5th and 6th Streets. Cedar Avenue averages just fewer than 2,000 vehicles per day along these two blocks. The northbound direction carries slightly more traffic than the southbound direction.

Existing Parking

The site contains two existing parking lots. One is a city-owned, permit-only parking lot with 114 spaces. The lot is accessed through a driveway located mid-block along 3rd Street. The second lot is part of the office-building portion of the site and contains 35 spaces. This site is access via driveways on Pacific and Cedar Avenues. A discussion with the parking lot operator indicated that there are currently about 112 permits sold for the City's lot. The operator stated that the majority of the parking permits were sold to residents of the adjacent Bellamar apartment building located across the street. There is apparently a long waiting list for parking in that complex. The current fee for a permit is \$25.00 per month.

A survey was conducted of the permit lot to identify its typical occupancy during a weekday. The lot is about half occupied during the daytime hours and nearly full during the evening and overnight hours.

FUTURE YEAR NO-BUILD ANALYSIS

The anticipated buildout year of the Project is expected to be 2007. The projection of Year 2007 No-Project traffic consists of existing traffic plus ambient traffic growth (general background regional growth) plus growth in traffic generated by specific related projects expected to be completed by 2007.

Based on discussions with City staff, an annual background growth rate of 1.0 percent was factored into the future traffic volumes. In addition, there are adjacent projects in the downtown area generating AM and PM trips impacting the study area. The City provided a list of 19 pending and approved building areas within the study area including apartments, condominiums, hotels, theatres, shopping centers, clubs, and restaurants. The list also provided key information concerning the location, number of units or square footage, and percent complete for each project. For this analysis, all related projects were assumed to be completed by the Year 2007.

Morning and evening peak-hour trip estimates for these related projects were developed based on rates published in the Institute of Transportation Engineer's publication *Trip Generation*, 7th Edition. Adjustments were included for pass-by and diverted/linked trips based on information in the ITE publication and rates developed for other developments in downtown Long Beach. A total of 1,757 AM and 3,639 PM trips will be generated by the related developments in the study area. The trips generated by the related projects were assigned to the area street system based on the patterns of existing area traffic for similar types of developments and on patterns listed in previous traffic studies for the area.

Year 2007 No-Build Traffic Operations

Based on these traffic forecasts, the intersections of Broadway with Maine Avenue and 3rd Street with Maine and Daisy avenues would operate at LOS E or F during the AM and/or PM peak hours. The remaining intersections would operate at LOS C or better. The City has committed to providing traffic signals at the Maine Avenue intersections. In addition, the West Gateway project has been identified as providing a traffic signal at the 3rd and Daisy intersection. With traffic signals at these intersections, the LOS at all three locations would be LOS A.

CEDAR COURT REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Cedar Court Project consists of 86 new residential loft units above a new parking structure, the re-use of the existing office building (approximately 122,500 square feet), and approximately 2,785 square feet of neighborhood-oriented retail space. The Project will also provide structured parking for the residential units, the office and retail space. Vehicular access to the residential parking area will be from a driveway on Pacific Avenue. Access to the office and public parking areas will be from Cedar Avenue. Because of the MTA rail tracks along Pacific Avenue, the residential driveway was assumed to operate as right-turn-in/right-turn-out only.

Project Traffic Generation and Trip Distribution

ITE Trip Generation rates were used to estimate future Project-related trips. The Project is expected to generate 224 trips in the AM peak hour and 228 trips in the PM peak hour. Because the retail component of the Project is small and will likely be neighborhood-oriented uses, we have reduced the retail trip generation to account for pass-by and walk-in traffic. We anticipate that this will be the majority of the trips generated by the retail space.

The routes people will use traveling to and from the Project were determined based on the patterns of existing area traffic for similar types of developments and on patterns listed in previous traffic studies for the area. Trips generated by the Project were assigned to the area street system using the directional distribution described above.

Threshold of Significance

Based on the City of Long Beach traffic Impact Guidelines, an impact is considered significant when the resulting level-of-service with the project traffic is E or F and project related traffic contributes a V/C of 0.02 or more to the critical movements.

YEAR 2007 WITH-PROJECT TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

For the 2007 With-Project conditions, only the intersections of Broadway with Maine and Daisy avenues and 3rd Street with Daisy Avenue would operate at LOS E or F. As previously noted, with the City-proposed traffic signals at these locations, the intersections would operate at LOS A in both the AM and PM peak hours. The remaining intersections would operate at acceptable levels of service. Based on the City's significance criteria, the Project would have a *no significant impact* at the analyzed intersections. The configuration of proposed development may change slightly during the project's final planning process. Based on the analysis results, a small increase in the number of residential units or shift in the land use mix should not have a significant impact on area traffic operations.

Impacts at Unsignalized Intersections

As previously discussed, the three unsignalized intersections included in the list of key intersections will operate at LOS E or F after the development of the Project without the provision of traffic signals. As previously noted, discussions with City staff indicated that there are already committed improvements to install traffic signals at the intersections of Broadway and Maine and 3rd Street and Maine. In addition, the West Gateway project has been identified to provide the traffic signal at the Daisy Avenue intersection. With traffic signals, all three of the above intersections would operate at acceptable levels of service.

Parking Analysis

A parking demand analysis was conducted for the Project based on the City's current parking code. The Project parking will primarily be provided in a single parking structure, although it is expected that some short-term parking for the site, especially the retail uses, will be parked via the adjacent on-street parking spaces along 3rd Street and Cedar Avenue.

Based on the Project size, the proposed 494-space parking garage and lot would have a surplus of 15 spaces. We have also assumed that some residential guest parking, which occurs mostly in the evening and on weekends, shares spaces with the office and retail parking to reduce the overall demand for parking spaces.

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Improvements to the area transportation system are proposed as part of other area projects previously approved by the City of Long Beach. There were no intersections where a significant impact resulting from Project-related traffic was identified.

Previously Committed Improvements

As previously discussed, the City has committed to installing traffic signals at the intersections of Maine Avenue with Broadway and 3rd Street as part of the Broadway School project. In addition, a new traffic signal has been proposed at the intersection of Daisy Avenue and 3rd Street in conjunction with the West Gateway development. The projected poor future operating conditions would be mitigated by the traffic signals.

Project Improvements

There were no identified significant Project-related impacts from the Cedar Court Project at any of the key intersections.

As part of the site redevelopment, the existing access drives will be changed. The access drive along 3rd Street will be removed. The access drives along Cedar Avenue will be consolidated and relocated to the north as a single access to the public and office parking areas of the garage. The access drive along Pacific Avenue will remain in its existing location and will be used for access to the residential parking area of the garage. The driveway on Pacific will be limited to right-turn-in/right-turn-out operation because of the MTA train tracks located in the middle of Pacific Avenue.

The existing transit stop located at the northeast corner of the site along Pacific Avenue should remain with adequate spacing between the stop and the site access drive. In addition, the pedestrian area surrounding the bus stop should have adequate staging area for pedestrians and sidewalk for the unobstructed movement of pedestrians.

Parking for the site will be provided in the site's garage, although it is expected that some patrons will use the adjacent on-street parking for short-term stops, especially to the retail uses. The proposed 494 parking spaces should be adequate based on the parking demand analysis.

Congestion Management Program System Analysis

The Congestion Management Program (CMP) for Los Angeles County requires that the traffic impact of individual development projects of potential regional significance be analyzed. The analysis has been conducted according to the guidelines set forth in the 2002 Congestion Management Program for Los Angeles County.

CMP Intersection Analysis

None of the proposed study area intersections are part of the 164 CMP Arterial monitoring locations. Therefore, no CMP intersection analysis was conducted in this traffic study report.

CMP Mainline Freeway Segment Analysis

The focus of this analysis is to determine whether project related trips would significantly impact the freeway system according to CMP guidelines and threshold of significance. The nearest freeway monitoring station is located along the I-710 Freeway. The proposed project does not contribute more than minimum threshold of 150 trips at the CMP mainline location. Based on CMP criteria described previously, detailed impact analysis is not warranted.